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July 4th Safety

Outdoor Safety

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter July—August 2014

Grants Pass Department Of Public Safety

Contact Information:

Non-Emergency

541-450-6260

Fire

541-450-6200

City Hall

541-450-6000



WHEN CAN I SET OFF FIREWORKS?

Within the City limits of Grants Pass, fireworks can only be used on the 4th of July between 6 PM and 11 PM. Only "Oregon Legal Fireworks" are permitted.

WHERE ARE THE USE OF FIREWORKS ILLEGAL AT ALL TIMES?

Within the wildfire hazard areas posted "NO FIREWORKS ALLOWED"

West of Highland Ave. and Dimmick St., north of the rail road tracks.

North of Interstate 5.

In areas where there is the potential to ignite combustible materials and vegetation.

Within any City park

Within any Public School

WHAT FIREWORKS ARE LEGAL?

Oregon Legal Fireworks:

- Do not explode
- Do not fly into the air – illegal: Mortars fired from tubes, Sky Lanterns
- Do not travel more than 6 feet horizontally
- Do not travel more than 12 inches vertically

BE PREPARED BEFORE LIGHTING FIREWORKS!

- Use only fireworks legal in Oregon, purchased from licensed outlets.
- Always read and follow label directions.
- Place Pets indoors; they are easily frightened by fireworks.
- Always have water handy – a garden hose or a bucket of water.
- Light fireworks outdoors on a flat, clear area away from houses, dry leaves or grass and combustible materials.

BE SAFE WHEN LIGHTING FIREWORKS

- Do not allow young children to play with fireworks under any circumstances. Sparklers, considered by many the ideal "safe" firework for the young, burn at 1200 to 2000 degrees F and can easily cause severe burns and ignite clothing. Children do not understand the danger involved and cannot act appropriately in case of emergency.
- Older children should only be permitted to use fireworks under close adult supervision. Do not allow any running or horseplay.
- Do not try to relight or handle malfunctioning fireworks. Place duds in a bucket of water and throw them away.
- Be sure other people are out of range before lighting fireworks.
- Never ignite fireworks inside a container such as a bottle or can.
- Keep unused fireworks away from the area where you are lighting them.
- Never have any portion of your body over a firework when lighting.

If you have any questions about fireworks use please call the Fire Prevention office at 541-450-6200.



Take Special Precautions to Ensure Outdoor Areas Are Safe

As families move outdoors to enjoy nice weather this summer, special precautions should be taken to ensure outdoor areas are safe from potential hazards. Swimming pools, barbecue grills, gardening tools, fertilizers, and lawn toys all pose risks to children and adults alike.

- Practice constant, adult supervision around any body of water, including pools and spas. Nationally, drowning is a leading cause of death to children under five.
- If you're considering a swimming pool purchase, contact your local Building Department first to determine exactly what permits are needed and what requirements you must follow.
- In-ground and above-ground pools, including inflatable pools holding more than 24 inches of water, must be surrounded by a fence or other barrier at least four feet high. Any gates in the fence must be self-closing and self-latching.
- Reserve a spot on a wall or fence near the pool for lifesaving devices, including a portable or mobile telephone.
- Steps and ladders for above-ground pools should be secured or removed when the pool is not in use.
- Use a cover for the pool when it is not in use.
- Make sure drain covers are properly fitted and have vacuum suction releases to prevent being trapped under water.
- Consider installing a pool alarm that can alert if someone enters the pool.
- Spa water temperatures should be set to 104 degrees Fahrenheit or lower to avoid elevated body temperature, which could lead to drowsiness, unconsciousness, heat stroke, or death.
- Keep pool and spa chemicals out of sight and secured.
- Designate the grilling area as a "No Play Zone" and keep kids and pets well away until grill equipment is completely cool.
- Check propane cylinder hoses for leaks before use.
- Do not move hot grills.
- Never add charcoal starter fluid when coals or kindling have already been ignited, and never use any flammable or combustible liquid other than charcoal starter fluid to get the fire going.
- Don't leave toys, garden tools and equipment in the yard.
- Keep fertilizers and pesticides out of sight of children and in a secure location.
- Keep fuel cans tightly capped, secured and stored away from ignition sources.
- Keep steps, sidewalks and patios in good repair.
- Check all swings, slides, playhouses and other structures for sharp objects, rusty metal pieces, breaks or weakened support pieces.

Your Grants Pass Department of Public Safety wants you to have a fun and safe summer. Please implement these outdoor safety tips into your summertime routine. If you have any questions or would like more information about outdoor safety, fire safety or safety in general, please do not hesitate to call the Fire Prevention Office at 541-450-6200.